such proposal is at present under consideration of the Government, (b) Does not arise.

**Value of Indian rupee**

144. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the value of Indian rupee is continuously falling in the domestic as well as international markets;

(b) if so, what was the value of rupee at the end of December, 1991 as compared to December, 1990 and December, 1980; and

(c) what has been the depreciation in the value of Indian rupee between July, 1991 and December, 1991?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) Value of Indian rupee has declined in both the domestic and international markets since 1980.

(b) and (c) The value of Indian rupee in the domestic market measured as a reciprocal of the Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (Base: 1982) on the specified dates is indicated below:—

| Date | Value of Rupee (Paise) 1 Rupee =100 paise 1982 |
|---|---|
| December 1980 | 121 |
| December 1990 | 50 |
| July, | 47 |
| December 1991 | 44 |

The external value of the Rupee against major currencies of the world and the corresponding depreciation of the rupee is given in the table below:—

| | Rupee per unit of foreign currency | | | | Percentage depre* ciation | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Dec. 31 1980 | Dec. 31 1990 | July 31 1991 | Dec. 31 1991 | Dec. 1991 over Dec. 1990 | Dec. 1991 over Dec. 1980 | Dee. 1991 over July 1991 |
| US dollar | 7.8837 | 17.9713 | 25.8214 | 25.9267 | 30.7 | 69.6 | 0.4 |
| Pound sterling | 18.85 | 34.46 | 43.38 | 48.47 | 28.9 | 61.1 | 10.5 |
| Deuteche mark | 4.0506 | 11.9661 | 14.7536 | 17.0687 | 29.9 | 76.3 | 13.6 |
| Yen | 0.0390 | 0.1338 | 0.1871 | 0.2063 | 35.1 | 81.1 | 9.3 |

**Payment of bonus to workers of Government Opium and Alkaloid Works**

145. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether bonus is paid to the workers of Government Opium and Alkaloid Works at Ghazipur;

(b) if so, at what rate and what is the amount of bonus paid;

(c) whether any worknorm has been prescribed for the award of bonus and whether bonus is denied on its non-fulfilment;

(d)if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(e) what steps are being taken for ending this discrimination?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (e) The workers of the Government Opium and Alkaloid Works Ghazipur are governed by a scheme for ex-gratia payment of production award equivalent